

THE AMERICAN LOTUS AT WEST PEABODY, MASSACHUSETTS.—In RHODORA, April, 1916 (vol. 18), p. 90, the American Lotus (*Nelumbo lutea* (Willd.) Pers.), is recorded from West Peabody (George Larrivee, Aug. 14, 1913) and it is also stated that “a large colony of it is well established in a small pond near the railway in Lynnfield Center (J. Richard Lunt, Aug. 24, 1915).” Do these records by any chance refer to the same place?

This plant has been known to local flower-lovers and botanists for a long time to be well-established in the so-called Lily Pond or “Devil’s Dish-bowl” just north of the railway in West Peabody. Recently (Aug. 20, 1931), I visited the place and secured specimens for our herbarium, and also talked with Mr. Daniel Brown of Peabody, who was instrumental in introducing it there. He told me that about 60 years ago, i.e., about 1870, a Mr. Silver of Salem, a sportsman interested in shooting, procured from South Carolina a lot of wild rice (*Zizania aquatica* L.) and that he (Brown) sowed a half bushel or more around the shores of the Lily Pond (which, by the way, is owned privately) in order to attract ducks. There were probably seeds of the lotus among the wild rice,—at all events, a year or two later it made its appearance in increasing amounts and has persisted till the present time. Now, a drive along the road at the north side of the pond in August reveals a very attractive floral display, the huge, upstanding lemon-colored blossoms and circular leaves imparting an almost tropical luxuriance to the spot.—ALBERT P. MORSE.

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